

MERZ
U.S. National Phase of PCT/CH2004/000667

REMARKS

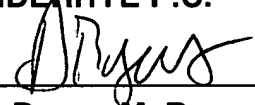
The application has been amended to insert a cross reference to the PCT application upon which the instant U.S. national phase is based and to add an Abstract of the Disclosure.

Claims 4, 9 and 10 have been amended in order to restore the same to their initially filed condition, with claim 10 being canceled and rewritten as new claim 11. Claim 5 has been amended to eliminate multiple dependency with the addition of new claim 12.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



Duane M. Byers

Reg. No. 33,363

DMB:Imy

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100